

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) A spring pick block for a printer, comprising:

an inclined surface having a lower end and configured to engage a leading edge of a media stack;

an indentation, formed near the lower end of the inclined surface, having a substantially vertical surface; and

a spring arm, movably disposed with respect to the inclined surface, and movable between:

a rearward position in which the spring arm is disposed rearward; and

a forward position in which the spring arm is disposed forward.

2. (Original) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 1, wherein the spring arm has an attached end secured near an upper end of the spring pick block, and a free end movably disposed near the indentation at the lower end of the spring pick block.

3. (Original) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a gap formed in the inclined surface of the spring pick block; and wherein the spring arm is disposed in the gap and movable into and out of the indentation.

4. (Original) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 1, wherein the spring arm is resilient, and bends between the rearward and forward positions.

5. (Original) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 1, wherein the inclined surface is disposed at a front wall that defines a feed end of a media feed area configured to receive the leading edge of the media stack.

6. (Original) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 5, further comprising:
attachment means for attaching the inclined surface to the front wall.

7. (Original) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 6, further comprising:
at least one attachment arm, extending rearward with respect to the inclined surface, with the front wall held between the inclined surface and the at least one attachment arm.

8. (canceled)

9. (Original) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 1, wherein the indentation extends laterally across the inclined surface; wherein the spring arm has an attachment end integrally formed with the inclined surface, a free end pivotally disposed near the lower end of the inclined surface, and an upper surface that is substantially flush with the inclined surface in the forward position.

10. (Original) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 1, wherein the inclined surface forms an angle between approximately 25 and 35 degrees with respect to vertical; and wherein the substantially vertical surface forms an angle between approximately 0 and 10 degrees with respect to vertical.

11. (Original) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 1, wherein the spring arm is disposed rearward in the rearward position in response to a greater load imposed by a higher media stack with the leading edge disposed in the indentation; and wherein the spring arm is disposed forward in the forward position in response to a lesser load imposed by a lower media stack with the leading edge disposed substantially out of the indentation.

Claims 12-23 (canceled).

24. (Original) A device for facilitating picking of individual sheets from a media stack of a printer, comprising:
an inclined surface having a lower end and configured to engage a leading edge of the media stack;

an indentation, formed near the lower end of the inclined surface; and
means for selectively pushing the media stack away from the indentation.

25. (Original) A device in accordance with claim 24, wherein the means for selectively pushing is disposed rearward in a rearward position in response to a greater load imposed by a higher media stack with a leading edge disposed in the indentation; and wherein the means for selectively pushing is disposed forward in a forward position in response to a lesser load imposed by a lower media stack with the leading edge disposed substantially out of the indentation.

Claims 26 and 27 (Canceled).

28. (new) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 1, wherein the inclined surface is oriented at an obtuse angle with respect to the media stack.

29. (new) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 1, wherein:
the spring arm is positioned behind the indentation in the inclined surface in the rearward position and corresponds to a higher media stack;
the spring arm is positioned substantially flush with the inclined surface in the forward position and corresponds to a lower media stack.

30. (new) A spring pick block for a printer, comprising:
an inclined surface having a lower end and engageable with a leading edge of a media stack;
an indentation, formed in the lower end of the inclined surface and oriented to face the media stack, to receive a bottom edge of the media stack and having a substantially vertical surface engageable with a leading edge of the media stack; and
a spring arm, movably disposed with respect to the inclined surface, and movable between a position behind the indentation and a position substantially flush with the inclined surface.

31. (new) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 30, wherein the spring arm has an attached end secured near an upper end of the spring pick block, and a free end movably disposed near the indentation at the lower end of the spring pick block.

32. (new) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 30, further comprising a gap formed in the inclined surface of the spring pick block; and wherein the spring arm is disposed in the gap and movable into and out of the indentation.

33. (new) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 30, wherein the spring arm is resilient, and bends between the rearward and forward positions.

34. (new) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 30, wherein the inclined surface is disposed at a front wall that defines a feed end of a media feed area configured to receive the leading edge of the media stack.

35. (new) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 34, further comprising:
attachment means for attaching the inclined surface to the front wall.

36. (new) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 35, further comprising:
at least one attachment arm, extending rearward with respect to the inclined surface, with the front wall held between the inclined surface and the at least one attachment arm.

37. (new) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 30, wherein the indentation extends laterally across the inclined surface; wherein the spring arm has an attachment end integrally formed with the inclined surface, a free end pivotally disposed near the lower end of the inclined surface, and an upper surface that is substantially flush with the inclined surface in the forward position.

38. (new) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 30, wherein the inclined surface

forms an angle between approximately 25 and 35 degrees with respect to vertical; and wherein the substantially vertical surface forms an angle between approximately 0 and 10 degrees with respect to vertical.

39. (new) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 30, wherein the spring arm is disposed rearward in the rearward position in response to a greater load imposed by a higher media stack with the leading edge disposed in the indentation; and wherein the spring arm is disposed forward in the forward position in response to a lesser load imposed by a lower media stack with the leading edge disposed substantially out of the indentation.

40. (new) A spring pick block in accordance with claim 30, wherein the inclined surface is oriented at an obtuse angle with respect to the media stack.

41. (new) A spring pick block for a printer, comprising:

- an inclined surface defined by being engageable with a leading edge of a media stack and oriented at an obtuse angle with respect to the media stack, the inclined surface having a lower end;

- an indentation, formed in the lower end of the inclined surface and oriented to face the media stack, to receive a bottom edge of the media stack and having a substantially vertical surface engageable with a leading edge of the media stack; and

- a spring arm, movably disposed with respect to the inclined surface, and having an upper surface that is substantially flush with the inclined surface in one position, and movable to another position behind the indentation.